



ACQUISITION

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

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DP (DAR)

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES  
DEPUTY FOR ACQUISITION POLICY, INTEGRITY, AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY, ASN(RD&A)/API&A  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
(CONTRACTING), SAF/AQC  
DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT POLICY, ASA(RD&A)/SARD-PP ✓  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (ACQUISITION), DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

SUBJECT: Reinvention Laboratories

Many of your activities may be participating under the Department of Defense Reinvention Laboratory initiative in response to the National Performance Review. From a contracting perspective, we are trying to ensure that we remove all possible regulatory barriers and thus optimize the opportunity for the labs to use streamlined and innovative contracting methods.

In support of this important initiative, I am granting contracting activities participating in designated Reinvention Laboratories the authority to deviate, if necessary for a reinvention objective, from the Federal Acquisition Regulation or the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS), except for: (1) deviations which have a significant effect beyond the internal operating procedures of the agency or have a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors; or (2) deviations identified in DFARS 201.402(1)(i). This authority to deviate does not extend to requirements imposed by statute or to requirements that implement the regulations or directives of other agencies such as the Small Business Administration and the Department of Labor that have statutory or executive regulatory authority.

At the end of each quarter, please provide a brief description of all deviations exercised as a result of authority provided by this memorandum so that I can consider them for broader application throughout the Department of Defense.

Eleanor R. Spector  
Director, Defense Procurement

cc: DSMC, Ft. Belvoir